Agricultural Land in Orissa

3275. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a vast area of agricultural land is yet to be developed in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of the financial assistance provided by Government for the development of agricultural land during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(c) the total area of land for which assistance has been sanctioned for development by Government during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There is about 15.0 lakh ha. agricultural land which needs development through contour bunding, and other soil conservation measures in the State of Orissa. For development of such land the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing two programmes, namely (i) Soil Conservation in the catchment of River Valley Projects (RVP) and Flood Prone Rivers (FPR), and (ii) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA). The details of funds released to the State and area covered under these programmes during 1998-99, 1999-2000 & 2000-2001 is given below:

Financial			(Rs. in lakhs)
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001 Proposed
RVP/FPR	112.4	300.00	200.00
NWDPRA	550.0	200.00	600.00
Physical		Area in thousand ha.	
RVP/FPR	2.40	6.0	3.0
NWDPRA	12.7	4.5	13.4

Cold Storages in Bihar

†3276. SHRIMATI KUMKUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cold storages in Bihar alongwith locations thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.